

The moment of temperature decline is nearly coincident with the cessation of the day's flight activity.

In conclusion, it can be stated that there is a definite daily metabolic cycle of heat production in the Vespine nest. This metabolic cycle is closely coincident with the daily activity cycle. The heat production is probably dependent upon the importation of food to the nest, and to the influence of the actual heat upon enzyme activity which in turn increases the metabolic rate of the wasps.

#### REFERENCES

- 1—GAUL, A. T. Awakening and Diurnal Flight Activities of the Vespine Wasps. (In Press)
- 2—MOSEBACH-PUKOWSKI, E. 1937. Temperatures in Larval Colonies. *Z. Morph. Oekol. Tiere.* 33: 358-380.

### INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL INSECTS

At the 1951 meeting of the International Entomological Congress in Amsterdam, it was decided to organize an International Union for the study of social insects. The aims of the union are: (1) to foster the scientific study of problems concerning these insects and (2) to integrate such work in appropriate ways internationally and within the various countries.

Dr. T. C. Schneirla, of the American Museum of Natural History, New York 24, N. Y., has been named Chairman pro tem and Dr. Chas. D. Michener, Dept. of Entomology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, is secretary pro tem of the North American section.

It is planned to establish a Bulletin, which would contain news items, lists of current publications and other reports of work in progress, as well as discussions and short articles of interest. A trial number, prepared and financed by the French section will appear shortly.

Entomologists, who would be interested in becoming affiliated with the North American section of the union, are asked to write to either Dr. Michener or Dr. Schneirla, so that they might be informed of further developments, and receive the initial copy of the Bulletin.—F. A. S.